1990

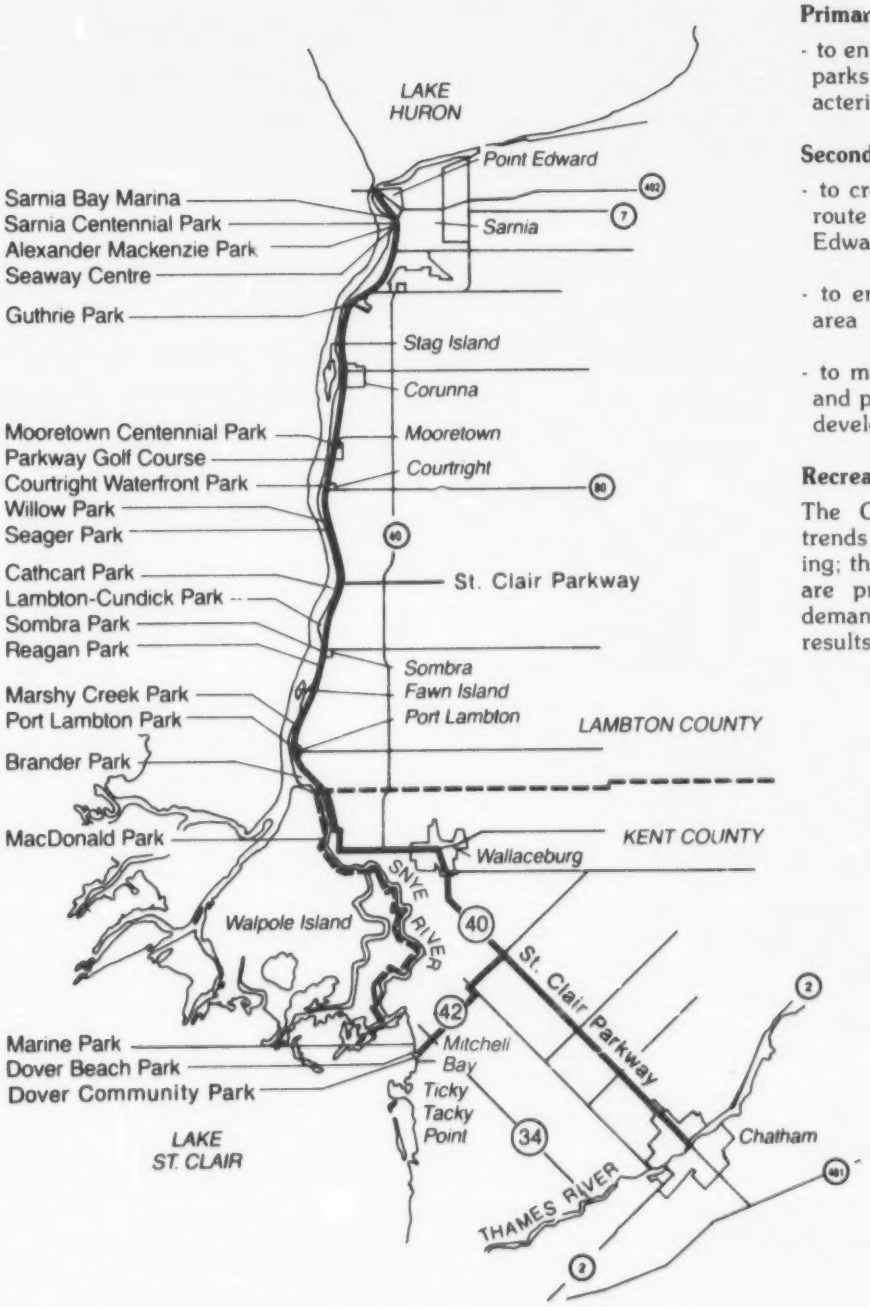
ANNUAL REPORT

St. Clair Parkway Commission

ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

91-06801/

Aims and Objectives



Primary

- to ensure an interconnecting system of parks using all the environmental characteristics of the region.

Secondary

- to create a scenic drive following the route corridor (Highway 40) from Pt. Edward to Chatham

- to encourage tourism in the Parkway area

- to maintain close contact with private and public authorities controlling urban development

Recreation Trends

The Commission recognizes that the trends in recreation are constantly changing; therefore, development programmes are prepared according to need and demand to ensure the most effective results.

Cover Photo:

Celebration of Lights, December 1990
Administration Office
Corunna, Ontario
Photo by Don Smith

Chairman's Message

It is indeed a pleasure to present our 1990 Annual Report. Highlights and major activities of the Commission during the fiscal year ended December 31, 1990 are included in this report. You will note the financial information has been separated and is listed with each of the main revenue departments of the Commission. I hope you find this a pleasing method of identifying the facility and its operating results.

There were two main capital construction activities in 1990. Through the funds obtained from selling a commission owned house no longer required, the Commission was able to expand the Marina basin at Marine Park, Mitchell Bay. This is Phase 1 of a Master Plan that one day will see the Marina complex double its original number of berths, and serve the local as well as transient boaters of Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River area.

In the fall, additional funding from the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation and the City of Sarnia permitted the Commission to complete the replacement of the seawall at Centennial Park in Sarnia, which was no longer safe. Unfortunately, this project had to be accessed through our beautiful floral gardens. In subsequent years, the garden replacement will occupy much of the Commission's efforts.

Most major projects are certainly important to complete, however, in 1990, two smaller projects have provided a great deal of satisfaction for the Commission and staff. Our Guests have thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the new boat launch ramp facility at MacDonald Park and the renovations to the picnic pavillion at Cathcart Park. These projects are excellent examples of the Commission's goal of ensuring public access and benefit of the waterfront we operate.

I am very appreciative of the efforts of our staff. In these days of restraint, our staff have continued to provide the same, and in several cases, improved service to our Guests and care for our parks. The Commissioners also worked hard in 1990, demonstrating through several key decisions, a great new vision for the Parkway.

John D. George

1990 Commissioners

Front Left to Right
Y. Shimizu, M. Stacey (Vice-Chairman), J. George (Chairman), S. Milway, L. O'Rourke, J. Johnston.

Back Left to Right
P. O'Brien, J. Marsh, A. Brogden, B. Langstaff, A. Ascott, R.F. Harrison (Sec. Treasurer; General Manager)

Parkway Happenings 1990

The **Cathcart Park** picnic shelter was originally built by the provincial government over 30 years ago. Recently the stone base was deteriorating and attempts to repair the stone supports led to the discovery that there were no footings in the original construction. Proper re-construction required complete replacement of the roof supports and footings. The popular shelter was back in service by mid-summer and continues to be used extensively by groups and families as the best location for reunions along the St. Clair River.

Sarnia Centennial Seawall Replacement

A very popular pastime in Sarnia is to walk through the floral gardens and walkway of Sarnia Centennial Park and around Sarnia Bay. The gabian basket erosion protection began to deteriorate quickly following the high water levels of the mid 1980's. Last year the seawall was in very poor condition and had to be replaced. Funding for the project, over $700,000, came from the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation and the City of Sarnia. Construction required much of the park gardens to be removed to permit heavy vehicle access. Over the next few years the waterfront of Sarnia Centennial park will be re-constructed with new walkway, lighting, and floral gardens.

Access Improved

Northeast of Wallaceburg, at MacDonald Park, a new boat launch was completed in August. The ramp is the only public facility in this area and gives the boaters greater access to the rivers and channels around Walpole Island and out to St. Clair River or Lake St. Clair.

The family beach are at Dover Beach Park was improved with several loads of sand. Access each year deteriorates with the prevailing winds across Lake St. Clair eroding the shoreline.

Financial Statement

To the St. Clair Parkway Commission and to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation,

I have audited the balance sheet of the St. Clair Parkway Commission as at December 31, 1990 and the statement of operations for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at December 31, 1990 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

J.F. Otterman, F.C.A.
Assistant Provincial Auditor

Toronto, Ontario,
February 28, 1991.

THE ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1990

Assets	1990	1989
CURRENT		
Cash	$ 70,954	$ -
Accounts receivable	23,326	19,575
Grants receivable (note 2c)	97,439	79,966
Current portion of:		
Capital grants receivable (note 2a)	20,625	20,625
Loan receivable (note 3)	5,000	5,000
Inventories	70,475	64,113
Prepaid expenses	27,704	26,248
	315,523	215,527
CAPITAL GRANTS RECEIVABLE (note 2a)	247,500	268,125
LOAN RECEIVABLE (Note 3)	25,000	30,000
	$ 588,023	$ 513,652
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Bank overdraft	$ -	$ 124,261
Accounts payable	224,372	44,810
Current portion of capital advances payable (note 2a)	20,625	20,625
Deferred revenue (note 4)	16,138	25,831
Deferred grant (note 5)	54,388	-
	315,523	215,527
CAPITAL ADVANCES PAYABLE (note 2a)	247,500	268,125
DEFERRED GRANT (note 3)	25,000	30,000
	$ 588,023	$ 513,652

See accompanying schedules and notes to financial statements on following pages, 4, 5, 7 and 8.

Approved on behalf of the Commission:

Commissioner

General Manager

Statement of Operations
For the Year Ended 31 December 1990

REVENUE	1990	1989
Operating revenues		
Golf course (Schedule 1)	$ 919,796	$ 848,090
Sarnia Bay Marina (Sch. 2)	547,672	505,949
Marine Park (Schedule 3)	429,661	439,026
Park and concession	106,171	104,864
Interest and other	39,971	11,881
	2,043,271	1,909,810
Proceeds from sale of property	166,672	-
Grants		
Province of Ontario	718,344	780,178
Province of Ontario - shoreline restoration	509,208	-
City of Sarnia	181,833	187,889
City of Sarnia - shoreline restoration	169,736	-
County of Lambton	181,833	187,889
County of Kent	116,893	120,785
City of Chatham	38,964	40,262
Moore Township	-	19,263
	1,916,811	1,336,266
	$4,126,754	$3,246,076
EXPENDITURES		
Administrative and operating		
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	941,212	857,126
Park maintenance and concessions	152,565	170,714
Utilities	45,989	48,885
Machinery and equipment	35,793	36,336
Insurance	31,740	31,785
Office supplies and equipment	17,873	18,840
Commissioners' fees and expenses	16,423	15,170
Other	34,997	35,643
	1,276,592	1,214,499
Golf course (Schedlue 1)	753,151	733,913
Sarnia Bay Marina (Sch. 2)	483,848	413,589
Marine Park (Schedule 3)	390,567	421,746
	2,904,158	2,783,747
Capital improvements	543,652	462,329
Capital improvements - shoreline restoration	678,944	
	1,222,596	462,329
	$4,126,754	$3,246,076

4.

Golf

St. Clair Parkway Golf Course

Our beautiful golf course at Mooretown, Ontario is well played by local and tourist guests. Over 22,000 non-member rounds of golf were played in 1990. Our first revenue producing facility, opened in 1971, continues to be our best revenue producer.

Safety and convenience of our golfers was kept in mind with the improvements to the course in 1990. New asphalt bridge approaches and cart paths were added. A decorative and functional screen was placed near the 10th tee to protect the golfers from errant shots.

Camping

Joint Industry - Parkway Initiative

Several months of development were required to produce a campground evacuation plan for Cathcart Park. The Commission staff combined its efforts on environmental safety in our parks with ICI Industries' (formerly CIL) Good Corporate Neighbour programme and developed an effective park evacuation plan, simulating an environmental disaster. The programme is under ongoing review and information is provided to all seasonal and transient campers on effective evacuation procedures.

THE ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

SCHEDULE 1

Schedule of Golf Course Operations for the Year ended 31 December 1990

	1990	1989
GOLF COURSE AND PRO SHOP		
Revenue - Green fees	$ 474,121	$ 418,354
- golf cart rentals	103,327	105,246
- sale of pro shop merchandise	68,682	57,643
	646,130	581,243
Expense - salaries, wages and employees' benefits	257,216	229,249
- maintenance	119,816	120,929
- administration	56,573	56,372
- furniture and equipment	16,275	32,665
- purchase and leasing of golf carts	57,025	58,955
- cost of merchandise sold	33,284	31,247
	540,189	529,417
Net income	105,941	51,826
DINING ROOM		
Revenue - sales	161,303	156,926
Expense - cost of sales	64,290	64,039
- salaries and wages	79,121	71,490
	143,411	135,529
Net income	17,892	21,397
LOUNGE		
Revenue - sales	112,363	109,921
Expense - cost of sales	42,224	43,901
- salaries, wages	27,327	25,066
	69,551	68,967
Net income	42,812	40,954
	$ 166,645	$ 114,177
TOTAL REVENUE	$ 919,796	$ 848,090
TOTAL EXPENSES	753,151	733,913
TOTAL NET INCOME	$ 166,645	$ 114,177

THE ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

SCHEDULE 2

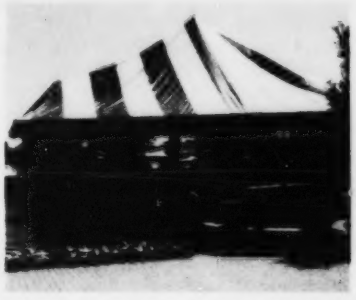
Schedule of Sarnia Bay Marina Operations
For the Year Ended 31 December 1990

	1990	1989
SARNIA BAY MARINA OPERATIONS		
Revenue - boat mooring	$ 267,947	$ 270,494
- gas and oil sales	60,747	103,203
- sale of merchandise	16,656	11,539
- other	6,760	5,947
	352,110	391,183
Expense - cost of gas and oil sold	53,615	93,909
- salaries, wages and employees benefits	115,497	112,322
- administration	88,630	64,505
- maintenance	32,311	23,022
- cost of merchandise sold	13,943	7,551
- machinery and equipment	1,103	7,237
	305,099	308,546
Net income	47,011	82,637
DINING ROOM		
Revenue - sales	195,562	114,766
Expense - cost of sales	77,915	48,483
- salaries and wages	100,834	56,560
	178,749	105,043
Net income	16,813	9,723
	$ 63,824	$ 92,360
TOTAL REVENUE	$ 547,672	$ 505,949
TOTAL EXPENSES	483,848	413,589
TOTAL NET INCOME	$ 63,824	$ 92,360

Sarnia Bay Marina

Sarnia Bay Marina

Boaters have thoroughly enjoyed the facilities of Sarnia Bay Marina since its opening in 1985. The Commission was excited to receive 44 new docks in 1989 through a Federal government programme and in 1990 began outfitting the docks with services. Many of the marina boaters are travelling cruisers and enjoy water and electricity services of our new docks and all of the 300 berths now available.



For those wet and windy days, the marina restaurant now has an outdoor canopy covering the patio. The framework of the canopy is steel with two adjustable peaks to control the tension of the tent-like top. Windscreens can be slid into place and still permit excellent view of the bay area scenery.

Centennial

Boaters Love to Fish the Parkway

The St. Clair Parkway Commission is the headquarters for the Sarnia Salmon Derby each spring. Approximately 3000 fishermen register to participate in the fishing competition sponsored by the Bluewater Angler's Association to help fund their fish hatchery programme in Point Edward.

Hundreds of fishermen are thankful for the public launch facility in Sarnia Centennial Park operated by the Commission. Over the last 3 years approximately $250,000 has been spent expanding the car and trailer parking lot and dredging the ramp mouth.

Marine Park Expansion Begins

Marine Park Expansion Begins

Marine Park, Mitchell's Bay was the 2nd revenue producing facility of the St. Clair Parkway Commission. Opened in 1974, it is a major recreation complex in north-west Kent County. The marina and campgrounds serve local and transient guests. Some come from Ohio, Michigan and the provinces of Manitoba and Quebec.

To expand the basin, a small lagoon in the campgrounds beside the original docks had to be drained and dredged to provide an area for the expansion. In all, three local companies were involved dredging, installing the seawall, and constructing the steel framework of the docks.

This is phase 1 of a future development plan that projects our original number of berths to be doubled. Phase 1 will be completed in 1991 and will total over $240,000.

The addition of 43 berths, fully serviced with water and electricity, will bring the total berths at Marine Park to 266. One-half of the new docks will be for transient docking. The Commission will now be able to promote transient berthing at Marine Park, encouraging greater tourism revenue for the Mitchell's Bay area.

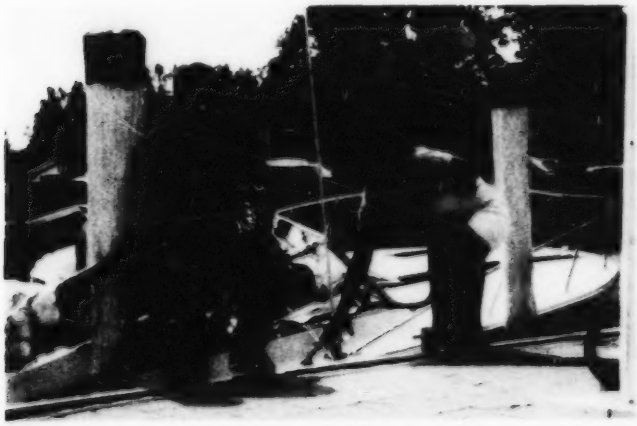
Marina Centre Serves All Our Guests

The unique design of the Marina Centre has been a landmark since its opening in 1974. Over 4,000 camper guests and hundreds of boaters and fishermen enjoy our restaurant service each year. A great view of some beautiful boats is available from the patio.

Fishing groups come from many miles away to fish the Bay area. The bait shop is useful in making their stay convenient and enjoyable. Boat rentals are also available for fishermen or others to rent for a day.

Choice Camping Location

Sportsmen love to camp the Marine Park facility. Quick boat launching to enjoy a day of fishing, using one of the eight launch ramps, has them out into the popular sports fishing area of Mitchell's Bay and Lake St. Clair in no time at all. Some come to hunt for waterfowl and use the campgrounds as their daily base.



THE ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

SCHEDULE 3

Schedule of Marine Park Operations
For the Year Ended 31 December 1990

	1990	1989
MARINE OPERATIONS		
Revenue - boat mooring, launching and rental	$ 170,986	$ 161,490
- gas and oil sales	123,798	137,471
- sale of merchandise	18,408	21,696
- other	3,818	5,887
	317,010	326,544
Expense - cost of gas and oil sold	113,136	123,881
- salaries, wages and employees' benefits	104,895	110,321
- administration	50,759	50,695
- maintenance	20,256	23,217
- cost of merchandise sold	12,585	13,253
- machinery and equipment	893	6,859
	302,524	328,226
Net income (loss)	14,486	(1,682)
CAMPGROUND		
Revenue - camping fees	64,484	60,873
Expense - salaries and wages	39,199	47,350
Net income	25,285	13,523
DINING ROOM		
Revenue - sales	48,167	51,609
Expense - cost of sales	20,190	20,292
- salaries and wages	28,654	25,878
	48,844	46,170
Net income (loss)	(677)	5,439
	$ 39,094	$ 17,280
TOTAL REVENUE	$ 429,661	$ 439,026
TOTAL EXPENSES	390,567	421,746
TOTAL NET INCOME (LOSS)	$ 39,094	$ 17,280

Accounting Notes

THE ST. CLAIR PARKWAY COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements
31 December 1990

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies of the Commission.

(a) Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value, with cost determined on a first in, first out basis.

(b) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets of the Commission consist of buildings, purchased and donated park lands, equipment and vehicles. The Commission charges all additions to fixed assets as expenditures in the year of acquisition.

(c) Leases

All lease payments are expensed as incurred because the Commission does not capitalize fixed assets.

(d) Donated Materials

The Commission does not record the value of donated materials in its financial statements.

2. GRANTS

(a) For capital expenditures, the Province of Ontario and the participating municipalities contribute seventy-five percent and twenty-five percent of the funds needed, respectively. For land and major projects, the Province advances one hundred per cent of funds, interest free, of which twenty-five per cent is repaid by the Commission from grants received from benefitting municipalities.

At 31 December 1990, the Commission owed the Province and the municipalities owed the Commission $268,125 for advances received for the development of the St. Clair Parkway Marine Park. Both are payable at $20,625 per annum until and including the year 2003.

(b) For expenditures in excess of operating income, the Province of Ontario and the participating municipalities contribute fifty per cent each.

(c) The difference between grant revenue on a accrual basis and grants actually received is recorded as either grants receivable or deferred grant revenue.

3. LOANS AND DEFERRED GRANT - DOVER TOWNSHIP

In March 1976, the Commission received a grant of $100,000 from the Province of Ontario which it loaned in March 1977, interest free, to Dover Township to assist in constructing a water treatment plant. The loan is being repaid by the Township at $5,000 per annum until and including 1996. Because the original grant was not recognized as grant revenue, the annual payment is included in grants from the Province. The remaining balance is reflected as a deferred grant and a loan receivable.

4. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue results from the prepayment of golf membership, marina docking fees and campground site reservations.

5. DEFERRED GRANT - SARNIA BAY SEAWALL RESTORATION PROJECT

During the year, the Commission received $183,332 from the City of Sarnia and $550,000 from the Province of Ontario in order to restore the seawall at the Sarnia Bay. The amount recorded as a deferred grant at the year end represents the amount not yet expended on this project.

6. REMUNERATION OF APPOINTEES

The total remuneration of the members of the Commission was $9,620 (1989: $9,625).

7. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The aggregate minimum lease payments payable under leases for golf carts and automobiles in effect at 31 December 1990 are as follows:

1991 - $15,951
1992 - 7,170
1993 - 993

The Commission has also leased the Sarnia Bay Marina property from the Government of Canada until 2002 for an amount equal to ten percent of the gross boat berthing revenue.

8. PENSION PLAN

The Commission provides pension benefits for its employees through participation in the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System. The Commission's share of contributions to this fund during the year was $47,114 (1989 - $43,249) and is included in salaries, wages and employees' benefits expense.

Day tripping is growing along the PARKWAY!

One of the most beautiful drives in southwestern Ontario is along the St. Clair Parkway. The Commission maintains 16 river parks for the enjoyment of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. In 1990 there were several bus tours from Ontario and the United States that combined an event in our region with a drive along the Parkway and a picnic at Cathcart Park.

A most popular addition to the 1990 marketing information package on the Commission is the Seaway Observation leaflet. Families love to watch for the ship stacks identified on the leaflet or listen to the boat whistles and identify from the leaflet what the call means.

Somedays we do not have enough picnic space for our guests to use. Families head to our parks every weekend for a picnic and a fun time on our park playgrounds. The weekdays are also popular these days with the parks full of businessmen and travelling motorists at noon hour. Not many lunch rooms have our beautiful scenery and fresh air!

Brander Park gardens at Port Lambton are a sight to behold with beautiful gardens and shrub beds. Annual flowers add extra colour in the summer.

The north end of Courtright Waterfront Park was expanded in 1989. Throughout 1990, the area was grass seeded and new trees planted. Several residents have contributed to the tree planting work through the Commission's "Plant a Tree in Memory" programme.

Recycle • Reduce • Reuse
Carpet Bed
Sarnia Centennial

Flower of the Parkway
Tawny Day Lily
'Hermerocallis fulva'

A Joint Programme of Parks Development

by

THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
Lambton County, Kent County
City of Sarnia & City of Chatham

St. Clair
Parkway
Commission

P.O. Box 700
Corunna, Ontario
N0N 1G0

Chairman: J.D. George